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Planting zones. 1917z

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

To enable editors to give home gardeners more explicit directions as to times of planting first, second, and subsequent crops of vegetables, specialists of the Department have prepared the enclosed garden planting map for the eastern half of the United States. This map is divided into five gardening zones in addition to the tropical or semi-tropical section. These zones have been determined by the average date of the last killing frost in spring, and it is impossible to extend them accurately west of the one hundred and third meridian owing to the varying altitudes in the mountainous regions of the West. Much of the advice regarding planting of first and successive crops, hereafter to be issued by the Department for use of newspapers, will be based on these zones. Under this zone system the Department hopes to be able to give readers in each zone definite instructions as to what can be planted, with hopes of success, each half month until the growing season is over.

The boundary lines are located by average frost dates and, therefore, are not absolute. The practices advised for a zone at a given date, therefore, may be extended with little danger short distances into neighboring zones.

As it is impossible to send a map with each article based on these zones, it is suggested that editors retain these maps for future reference or make a memorandum of the zone in which their circulation is located. Editors are free to reproduce the map in whole or in part.

Respectfully,

G. W. Wharton,

CHIEF.

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ADRU  
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